

SENATE BILL 432

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 13, relative to trigger point dry needling therapy.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-13-103(15)(B), is amended by inserting the language “, trigger point dry needling therapy,” between the language “electrotherapeutic modalities” and “and patient-related instruction”.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-13-109(a), is amended by inserting the language “, except as permitted by Section 3 of this act” immediately preceding the punctuation “.” at the end of the subsection.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 13, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Notwithstanding chapter 6 of this title, a physical therapist may practice trigger point dry needling as a part of the practice of physical therapy if the physical therapist:

(1) Has held a license to practice physical therapy under this chapter, and has actively practiced physical therapy, for at least two (2) years;

(2) Has successfully completed a course in trigger point dry needling that:

(A) Is approved by the board; and

(B) Includes at least three hundred four (304) total course hours, including at least:

(i) Fifty-four (54) hours of in-person instruction; and

(ii) Two hundred fifty (250) supervised patient treatment sessions;

(3) Files with the board a certificate of completion of the course;

(4) Registers with the board as a trigger point dry needling practitioner;

and

(5) Meets any other requirement to practice trigger point dry needling established by the board.

(b) The board shall promulgate rules, in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5, that establish:

(1) The criteria for approving a course described in subdivision (a)(2);

and

(2) Any other requirements established pursuant to subdivision (a)(5).

(c) The board may assess, in accordance with § 63-13-304(7), a fee for the registration described in subdivision (a)(4).

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.